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The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Identical letters dated 4 March 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Qatar to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the State of Qatar, in its capacity as current Chairman of the Ninth Islamic Summit Conference, on the Afghan Government's reported decision to destroy some historic monuments in Afghanistan (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 46, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Adel Ali **Al-Khal**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex to the identical letters dated 4 March 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Qatar to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

[Original: Arabic]

An authoritative source in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has announced that the State of Qatar, in its capacity as current Chairman of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, has received appeals from numerous parties concerning the decision of the Taliban to destroy certain antiquities located in Afghanistan.

The State of Qatar is of the view that, regardless of their location, these antiquities are the property of all mankind and must be preserved. It therefore appeals to those concerned in Afghanistan to reconsider this decision.